

## Senate Resolution 1204

By: Senators Orrock of the 36th, Brown of the 26th, Jones of the 10th and Fort of the 39th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. Smith W. Bagley; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens  
3 with the passing of Mr. Smith W. Bagley on January 2, 2010; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Bagley was born on April 1, 1935, in New York, a beloved son of  
5 Henry and Nancy Reynolds Bagley and grandson of Richard Joshua Reynolds, founder of  
6 the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Bagley's roots run through the State of Georgia, with his father born in  
8 Americus, and later living in Atlanta, his uncle Richard Reynolds living much of his life on  
9 Sapelo Island, and his mother spending much of her time at the beloved home, Musgrove,  
10 on St. Simons Island; and

11 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty as a captain with the  
12 United States Army Reserve and earned a bachelor's degree from Washington and Lee  
13 University; and

14 WHEREAS, a prominent Democratic fundraiser, business executive, activist, and  
15 progressive philanthropist, Mr. Bagley served as chief executive to SBI, a cellular telephone  
16 company in Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado that he started in 1989; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Bagley joined the Democratic Party when he was 17, ran for Congress for  
18 North Carolina in the late 1960's, and later served as vice chairman of finance for the  
19 Democratic National Committee and a delegate to numerous Democratic National  
20 Conventions; and

21 WHEREAS, he devoted most of his life to supporting social justice causes, serving as a  
22 founding member of Cities and Schools, the precursor for Communities in Schools, and as  
23 president of the Arca Foundation and founder of the Brenn Foundation, which focuses on

24 public policy issues such as social justice, human rights, civic engagement, and the  
25 environment; and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. Bagley was united in love and marriage for 26 wonderful years to Elizabeth  
27 Frawley Bagley and was blessed with six wonderful children, Walker, Brett, Conor, Nancy,  
28 Nicole, and Vaughan, and five grandchildren; and

29 WHEREAS, a source of a great support to Democratic candidates, Mr. Bagley and his family  
30 opened their homes for fundraising events for candidates such as President Jimmy Carter,  
31 President Bill Clinton, President Barack Obama, Vice President Al Gore, Senator Edward  
32 M. Kennedy, and Senator John Kerry; and their estate on St. Simons Island, Georgia, was the  
33 site of President Carter's first pre-inaugural cabinet meeting and is used as a regular retreat  
34 for policy makers, innovative thinkers, and progressive activists from around the world; and

35 WHEREAS, Mr. Bagley served for 20 years as president of the Sapelo Foundation, which  
36 was founded by his uncle Richard, and was a long-standing board member of the Sapelo  
37 Island Research Foundation in Brunswick, Georgia; and

38 WHEREAS, Mr. Bagley was chairman of the board of regents of Catholic University of  
39 America, after which he was honored with the title Chairman Emeritus, founded the first  
40 annual American Cardinals Dinner, and was recognized with the President's Medal; and

41 WHEREAS, a well-known philanthropist, Mr. Bagley was a former member of the Board  
42 of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and was a life trustee and  
43 board member for the last 50 years of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation in North Carolina;  
44 and

45 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
46 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness and, by the example he made of his life, he  
47 made this world a better place in which to live; and

48 WHEREAS, with a personal motto of "For the People," Mr. Bagley lived his life in service  
49 to others and never faltered in his desire to help his fellow man; and

50 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. Bagley will long be remembered for  
51 his love of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, father, grandfather, and friend will  
52 be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
54 join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. Smith W. Bagley and express their deepest and  
55 most sincere regret at his passing.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
57 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. Smith W. Bagley.